Economic Levers to Promote Greater Agriculture and Nutrition and Health Linkage

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Framework to Ensure Improved Linkage of Agriculture and Nutrition/Health

Food availability and improved markets (with postharvest losses reduced) to reach the consumers;

Economic access especially among the poor;

Ability to absorb the food intake—overcoming coming constraints like safe drinking water, etc. diseases that people to get sick;
Three Economic levers:

• Economic growth, broad based, especially agriculture, necessary but not sufficient…Economic growth requires investments, incentives. And institutions in place
  – Specific interventions are also necessary to reduce malnutrition and micronutrient deficiency especially among children and other more vulnerable sectors in the population
• By bridging information gap, create/find MARKETS for nutritional foods that are cost effective, and certified them on quality;

• Use of fiscal instruments like “gentle breeze” to effect dietary changes towards improving nutrition and health
• There were other levers identified:
  – To improve availability of nutritious food: appropriate price and investment policy (e.g. Amul Dairy); reducing post harvest losses
  – Incentives for bio-fortification; garden plots for women; product innovation (e.g. soya, millets, etc)
  – To give economic access to poor, Conditional cash transfers could be a way to go (especially towards girl child)
THANK YOU